## A Message from the Board Chair

2016 has been a year with no lack of changes to laws, regulations, and guidelines that affect the practice of medicine. Notably, the Centers for Disease Control issued standards for prescribing for chronic pain, and the Vermont General Assembly passed a bill with a variety of measures designed to help prevent the spread of opioid addiction and improve the lives of those already struggling with addiction. Even the National Transportation Safety Board has issued recommendations about medical practice for physicians and other health care professionals.

All of us at the Board, especially the clinician members, understand that it can be a challenge to keep up with all these legal and regulatory changes, on top of rapidly evolving medical science and the large-scale effort to reform delivery of health care in the United States. We hope that you find it helpful for us to point out and summarize some of the changes to laws, regulations, and rules that affect the practice of medicine.

We strive to make our newsletter relevant and helpful to our licensees and we welcome your feedback, especially suggestions for topics you would like to see covered. Contact us:

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